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INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY 2029
RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 1398
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 1044
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 2097
RHMFISS/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEFAAA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEWMFB/DTRA CT WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY 1585
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY 1455
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SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

STATE FOR SCA/CEN, ISN
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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [TBIO](#) [KZ](#)
SUBJECT: KAZAKHSTAN: CENTRAL REFERENCE LABORATORY
COORDINATION

11. (U) Sensitive but unclassified. Not for public Internet.

12. (SBU) During the October 7-8 visit of Deputy Secretary of Energy Daniel Poneman to Astana, Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense Andrew Weber asked several Kazakhstani officials to designate a single government entity to be responsible for coordinating the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, and Ministry of Education and Science so that U.S. work can proceed on building a national Central Reference Laboratory (CRL) in Almaty to promote biological threat reduction. From Foreign Minister Kanat Saudabayev and Prime Minister Karim Masimov we heard during the visit that the Foreign Ministry would provide the necessary coordination.

13. (SBU) On October 12, the Ambassador met with Deputy Foreign Minister Kairat Umarov to seek clarification. Umarov explained that the Foreign Ministry will convene the government's standing Special Commission on Biological Security. The Commission will convoke all ministries and agencies with equities in the CRL. The Government of Kazakhstan will then official communicate that information to the United States. When asked how long this process would take, Umarov responded that this kind of inter-agency process normally takes one or two months, but that the Foreign Ministry would press to accelerate it.
HOAGLAND